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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/690,353	10/16/2000	Douglas A. Collins	COP1003	2345

7590

04/08/2003

Sherry M Knowles  
King & Spalding  
191 Peachtree Street NE  
45th Floor  
Atlanta, GA 30303

EXAMINER

JONES, DAMERON

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1616

DATE MAILED: 04/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/690,353	Applicant(s) COLLINS ET AL.	
Examiner D. L. Jones	Art Unit 1616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 July 2002 and 09 December 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-19,28-32,37-46 and 56-63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-19,28-32, 37-46 and 56-63 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
 \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
 a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 11.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

1. The Examiner acknowledges receipt of Paper No. 13, filed 12/9/02, wherein Figure 1 was resubmitted; claims 1, 2, 8, 45, and 46 were amended; and claims 4, 20-27, 33-36, 47-55, and 64-69 were canceled.

**Note:** Claims 1-3, 5-19, 28-32, 37-46, and 56-63 are pending.

## **RESPONSE TO APPLICANT'S AMENDMENT/ARGUMENTS**

2. The Applicant's arguments filed 12/9/02 (Paper No. 13) to the rejection of claims 1-69 made by the Examiner under 35 USC 102, 103, 112, 101, and/or double patenting have been fully considered and deemed persuasive-in-part for the reasons set forth below.

### **101 Rejections**

The 101 rejections are WITHDRAWN for reasons of record in Applicant's response.

### **102 Rejections**

The 102 rejections are WITHDRAWN for reasons of record in Applicant's response.

### **103 Rejections**

The 103 rejections are WITHDRAWN for reasons of record in Applicant's response.

**112 Rejections**

The 112 rejections are WITHDRAWN for reasons of record in Applicant's response.

**Double Patenting Rejections**

I. The double patenting rejection over application 09/626,213 is WITHDRAWN for reasons of record in Applicant's response.

II. The rejection of claims 1-3, 5-19, 28-32, 37-46, and 56-63 as being provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable of copending application numbers 10/027,593; 10/028,857; 09/690,197; 09/690,198; 09/873,142; and 09/873,164 is MAINTAINED for reasons of record in the office action mailed 6/3/02, Paper No. 10.

**Note:** It is duly noted in Applicant's response filed 12/9/02, Paper No. 13, that Applicant has agreed to submit terminal disclaimers to overcome the double patenting rejections.

**COMMENTS/NOTES**

3. Claims 1-3, 5-19, 28-32, 37-46, and 56-63 are distinguished over the prior art of record for reasons of record in Applicant's response. However, Applicant MUST address and overcome the double patenting rejections set forth above.


4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to D. L. Jones whose telephone number is (703) 308-4640. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (alternate Mon.), 6:45 a.m. - 4:15 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jose' Dees can be reached on (703) 308- 4628. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-4556 for regular communications and (703) 308-4556 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

  
D. L. Jones  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1616

April 4, 2003